

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal in the Ministry at present, to conduct such a study.

(b) to (d) In view of the above, it does not arise.

[English]

### Export of Spices

1772. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether spices board has launched an innovative schemes to promote the quality spices exports with better packing of consumer packets by introducing a 'logo mark', which will vouch for the quality and Indian-ness of spices;

(b) if so, whether the board has specified certain norms for the quality of the products, processing and packing materials;

(c) if so, the extent to which these steps have promoted exports of spices; and

(d) the other steps the Government propose to take to promote quality spices to be more attractive in the Foreign Countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) Yes, Sir. Government/Spices Board has launched a scheme to promote exports of quality spices, with improved packaging, in consumer packs by awarding a quality certification "Indian Spice Logo" as a mark of quality and Indianness.

(b) Yes, Sir. The logo mark is awarded only on fulfilment of certain prescribed norms and conditions for hygienic processing, packaging and product quality.

(c) The scheme has created an awareness on quality of Indian spices among buyers/consumers in the overseas markets. Exports of spices in consumer packs with "logo" was 700 tonnes in 1996-97 as compared to 340 Tonnes and 166 Tonnes during 1995-96 and 1994-95 respectively.

(d) Apart from the general trade policy reforms, the steps taken to enhance export of spices are, abolition of cess on export of pepper (except green pepper in brine), cardamom, saffron and spice oils and oleoresins to enhance its price competitiveness in the overseas markets; implementation of brand promotion schemes like logo promotion; grant of spice house certificate as a recognition of processor/exporters of quality products; setting up of laboratories for testing of products; technology transfer; process upgradation and product development.

### Compensation to Legal Heirs of the Deceased Coal Mine Workers

1773. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coal workers who lost their lives in coal mines accidents during each of the last three years—subsidiary-wise;

(b) whether compensation has been paid to all the legal heirs of the deceased workers;

(c) if so, the details thereof, subsidiary-wise;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether employment has been offered to the legal heirs of the deceased workers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, subsidiary-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The number of coal workers who lost their lives in coal mines accidents during the last three years (1994, 1995 and 1996) in Coal India Limited (CIL) subsidiary-wise and Singareni Collieries Company Limited is given below:

Company	No. of persons lost lives		
	1994	1995	1996
CIL			
ECL	79	20	20
BCCL	37	105	36
CCL	22	22	19
NCL	5	5	2
WCL	18	10	9
SECL	23	23	15
MCL	1	9	7
NEC	—	1	3
Total	185	195	111
SCCL	50	21	29

(b) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Abbreviations:

CIL	: Coal India Limited
ECL	: Eastern Coalfields Limited
BCCL	: Bharat Coking Coal Limited
CCL	: Central Coalfields Limited
NCL	: Northern Coalfields Limited
WCL	: Western Coalfields Limited
SECL	: South Eastern Coalfields Limited